## Message Text

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14-11

**ACTION EA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 SAM-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /072 W

R 080904Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3927

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FOL TEL FROM UDORN DATED 8 MAY SENT ACTION BANGKOK INFO CHIANG MAI REPEATED FOR UR INFO

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, TH

SUBJECT: MAY DAY RALLY

1. HOSTILE AND RADICAL ELEMENTS TRIED TO USURP CONTROL OF UDORN'S MAY DAY RALLY AND TURN IT INTO AN ANTI-AMERICAN AFFAIR, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES, PLANNED BY SAMLOR ACTIVISTS
SUNAN AND THAITERD AND SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE, WERE TO KICK OFF AT 1000 WITH A CEREMONY PRESIDED OVER BY GOVERNOR ANEK. HOWEVER, ONLY ABOUT 15 PEOPLE SHOWED UP FORCING CANCELLATION. FINALLY, ABOUT NOON A PARADE OF 400 TOOK PLACE THROUGH TOWN TO SHOW OFF UDORN'S LABOR FORCE. LATER IN THE AFTERNOON THE GOVERNOR AND MAYOR DID GIVE SPEECHES AT THE PARK. FOLLOWING THAT, THE PARTICIPANTS SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS, ONE OF ABOUT 200 HOLDING A HYDE PARK FORUM, REPORTEDLY ASSISTED BY THREE NSCT REPRESENTATIVES, ATTACKING AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND THE OTHER GROUP, OF ABOUT 50, FOLLOWING THE DISAFFECTED NCO BARTENDERS AS THEY TRIED TO ENLIST SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT BY ATTACKING THE MILITARY FOR MISTREATING THEM.

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2. ABOUT 1600, TWO BAHT BUSLOADS OF PEOPLE PROBABLY HIRED BY THE

NCO GROUP, CAME TO THE CONSULATE LOOKING FOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS, BUT FOUND NO ONE AND LEFT. THEY THEN PROCEEDED TO THE AIRBASE AND ATTEMPTED, WITHOUT SUCCESS, TO ENLIST SUPPORT AT BOTH ENTRANCES.

- 3. EARLIER IN THE DAY THE CONSULATE HAD CLOSED UP AS A PRE-CAUTION AGAINST ANY DEMONSTRATION. WITH RUMORS OF 1000 PEOPLE COMING FROM HUAI LUANG AND EXPECTATIONS OF A SIZEABLE CROWD OF HERETOFORE EASILY MOVED LABORERS AT THE CENTRAL PARK, THERE WAS A DEFINITE POSSIBILITY AND CLEAR RISK.
- 4. HOWEVER, THE BEST LAID PLANS WENT ASTRAY. WE KNOW THAT SAMLOR ACTIVISTS NAN AND THAITERD PLANNED TO TAKE OVER THE CROWD FOR THEIR OWN USES. SO TOO DID THE NCO BARTENDERS. THEY APPARENTLY NEVER GOT TOGETHER. NEITHER DID LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE FROM HUAI LUANG ARRIVE, OR FOR THAT MATTER, ANY SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF LABORERS OTHER THAN SAMLOR OPERATORS. FINALLY, IT IS JUST POSSIBLE THAT THE WEEK'S EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA MADE AN ANTI-IMPERIALISM RALLY A BIT ANTI-CLIMATIC.
- 5. IT IS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT TRANQUILITY FOR UDORN'S LABOR FRONT OR THE CONSULATE, ALTHOUGH THERE IS GOOD REASON TO HOPE THAT THE NCO BARTENDER ISSUE MAY HAVE BEEN LEFT DANCING ON THE MAY POLE. HOWEVER THE EXPECTED ENTHUSIASM FOR MAY DAY ACTIVITIES HAD THE CHARACTER OF DAY-OLD CHAMPAGNE, AND IT IS JUST POSSIBLE THAT THE PEOPLE, LABORERS INCLUDED, ARE A BIT WEARY. NEVERTHELESS, THE ISSUES AND RADICALS REMAIN, AND WHILE THEIR NON-SUCCESS MAY SEND THEM BACK TO THEIR PLANNING SESSIONS, ANY RESPITE WILL PROBABLY BE OF SHORT DURATION. BIGELOW UNQUOTE.

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## Message Attributes

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